

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-02 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-15

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-12 PRS-01 OMB-01 AF-10

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9502

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2489

FROM USDEL EC WP ON ACCESSION

PASS STR

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS ON TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

REFERENCE:(A) PARIS 13922 (B) PARIS 13926 (C) PARIS 14196

1. FRENCH OFFICIALS (BOTH LOCAL AND FROM PARIS) HAVE
IN PAST FEW WEEKS BEEN ENDEAVORING TO ASCERTAIN WHAT US
WILL BE REQUESTING IN ART XXIV:6 RENEGOTIATIONS,
ESPECIALLY ON CEREALS (WHERE THEY WOULD ALSO LIKE TO
KNOW HOW WE LINK ART XXIV:6 SETTLEMENT OF CEREALS
CLAIMS ARISING FROM RIGHTS IN UK AND DENMARK, POSSIBLE
SETTLEMENT OF SUSPENDED RIGHTS (SO- CALLED " STANDSTILL
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RIGHTS" ON GRAINS, BASED ON GATT COMMITMENTS OF MEMBER STATES OF THE SIX ANTE- DATING THE ROME TREATY), AND 1973-75 MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS (MTN)). THEY REFER POINTEDLY TO FORTHCOMING MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT NIXON AND PRESIDENT POMPIDOU AND SUGGEST THAT IF US WANTS ANY DECISION OF CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE BY EC IN NEXT TWO OR THREE MONTHS PRESIDENT NIXON SHOULD INDICATE THIS TO PRESIDENT POMPIDOU AT THE MEETING. COMMENT: THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH OFT- ENCOUNTERED FRENCH VIEW THAT US POSITIONS ON MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE TO FRANCE SHOULD FIRST BE MADE KNOWN IN BILATERAL US- FRENCH CONTEXT AND NOT BE RELAYED TO FRANCE THROUGH EC COMMISSION OR OTHER MULTI- NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. END COMMENT.

2. SHOULD THERE BE A REAFFIRMATION OF COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY, AS RECOMMENDED BY EMBASSY PARIS (SEE PARA 6 REFTEL B AND PARA 6 REFTEL C), WE SUGGEST THAT IT MIGHT FOLLOW CLOSELY THE AGREED TERMS OF THE FEBRUARY 1972 US- EC JOINT DECLARATION: " THE NEGOTIATIONS SHALL BE CONDUCTED ON THE BASIS OF MUTUAL ADVANTAGE AND MUTUAL COMMITMENT WITH OVERALL RECIPROCITY AND SHALL COVER AGRICULTURAL AS WELL AS INDUSTRIAL TRADE." WE ALSO SUGGEST THAT THE REAFFIRMATION RELATED TO THE 1973-75 MTN ONLY (AND NOT THE CURRENT ART XXIV:6 RENEGOTIATIONS) AND THAT BOTH SIDES CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT -- ESPECIALLY AS REGARDS US " STANDSTILL RIGHTS" ON CEREALS -- APPLICATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY REQUIRES EITHER THE RETURN TO OBSERVANCE OF PAST GATT COMMITMENTS OF EC MEMBER STATES ON CEREALS (WHICH WE DO NOT EXPECT) OR THE APPLICATION OF NEW AND EQUIVALENT COMMITMENTS (WHICH WE DO EXPECT THE EC TO NEGOTIATE IN GATT, WITHOUT, OF COURSE, NEW COMMITMENTS BY THE US). BASSIN

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